

May 12, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

U-378

Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., Chairperson Mark Stauber called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioners Room. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present; Chairperson Mark Stauber, Commissioner Ean Bruette, Jacob Conery, Pete Judd, absent Patti Peretto.

Also present: Administrator Lynette Lorenz, Administrative Assistant Mary Dalpra, Batawagama Director Brian Schulze, Court Administrator Summer Olson, Construction Code Accounting Clerk Nick Curtis, Emergency Manager Chris Peterson, Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen, Friend of the Court Shawn Houle, Equalization Director Amy Bucek, Deputy Equalization Director Julie Harp, Sheriff Ryan Boehmke, Treasurer Melanie Camps, Deputy Treasurer Jennifer Curtis, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti, and Clerk/Register Amy Donati.

Approval of the Minutes: Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of April 14, 2026 and the Special meeting minutes of April 27, 2026 and April 29, 2026.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Conery supported by Bruette, to approve the agenda with the following additional changes:

#3 Appointments: Robert Froit – Housing Commission Candidate

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items Only (3 minutes max.)

Stauber called for Public Comment three times, with no comments voiced.

Monthly Financials:

Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd, to approve the monthly payables for April in the amount of \$468,960.38 and payroll for April in the amount of \$311,421.67.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Judd, Bruette, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery, to approve journal entries 25309 through 25461 for April in the amount of \$11,537,977.71, submitted by Treasurer Melanie Camps, 6 of which are administratively approved budget amendments in the amount of \$66,150.00.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Bruette, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports:

Bruette: Commissioner Bruette reported that he attended a Northpointe Strategic meeting and made comment on how the new CEO of Northpointe has really improved the engagement of staff and Northpointe staff seem to be rejuvenated.

Conery: Commissioner Conery reported that the Iron County Road Commission is currently doing work in Mastodon Township. Commissioner Conery also made comment that the \$300,000.00 grant to update the Dawson Lake Park will be taking place this summer.

Judd: Commissioner Judd reported that the Fair Board has started to clean up the Fair Grounds property

for the upcoming year. Commissioner Judd reported that the West Iron District Library is now a UPS drop off location. Commissioner Judd also reported that Bates Township help an E-Wate collection last Saturday. Commissioner Judd reported that the Dickinson-Iron Health Department has recently requested bid to complete landscaping at the Kingsford Office. Commissioner Judd reported that the City of Iron River is starting their new Sewer project and that the Iron River City wide large item disposal cleanup will take place on Saturday, May 16, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Commissioner Judd also reported that the Department of Health and Human Services Office will be relocating to open space in the Super One grocery store complex. Lastly, Commissioner Judd reported that the County Medical Care Facility has reported steady financial conditions and that residence numbers are also steady.

Peretto: Absent

Stauber: Commissioner Stauber reported that he attended a Michigan Works meeting and Michigan Works reported that current budgets are in place for the next six months. After six months funding will be drastically reduced. Commissioner Stauber stated the important role of Michigan Works within the Community and the upcoming budget cuts will be detrimental to Iron County.

Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to approve Commissioner Reports.

Voice Vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Department Reports:

Civil Counsel: Civil Counsel Tinti reported that he was currently working on a Notice Clearing Easement for a Powerline and that it should be completed within a week.

Friend of Court: Friend of Court Shawn Houle reported that \$80,000 was paid in child support in the month of March.

ICECA: Director Zach Hautala reported that ICECA has been given authorization to post current Iron County open positions on the Michigan Works website.

MSU Extension: Anne Kretschmann reported that 4H members are assisting with Spring cleanup and assisting with putting flags on all Veterans grave sites. Mrs. Kretschmann also reported that on May 3, 2026 4H held its annual achievement event and that 60 attendees participated. Lastly Mrs. Kretschmann reported that 4H is currently planning summer activities that will include a weeklong trip to a college downstate for 4H members.

Parks/Grounds: Facilities and Parks Supervisor Robby Olsen reported that Pentoga Park is ready for the upcoming camping season. Waterlines have been fixed, water has been tested and all tests are coming back negative and that is a good thing. Supervisor Olsen reported that the Sheriff's Department roof replacement is complete and that a meeting has been scheduled for discussion to take place about the replacement of the bell tower roof. Lastly, Supervisor Olsen reported that the Trial Court roof had been leaking during the spring because of snow build up. The roof currently has not leaked during rainstorms, but he will keep an eye on the roof and update the County Board if any issues arise.

Sheriff Department: Sheriff Boehmke reported that an error was made; the Sheriff Department reported that Search and Rescue was called out once last month when in fact Search and Rescue was called out twice last month. Sheriff Boehmke also reported that Retired Michigan State Police Detective Jason Sleeter will be starting employment as a part-time Detective with the Sheriff's Department on May 13, 2026. Lastly, Sheriff Boehmke reported that Deputy Painter recently instructed a Boater Safety class at Forest Park and West Iron County Schools.

Treasurer: Treasurer Camps reported that the County ARPA report has been submitted to the required Federal Department. Lastly, Treasurer Camps reported that the Auditing Firm conducting the County Audit will be in the Courthouse Complex next week.

Emergency Management: Emergency Manager Chris Peterson reported that flood waters have receded and no longer pose a threat to houses or infrastructure. Emergency Manager Peterson reported that Iron County had an estimated \$378,000.00 in damage because of flood waters this Spring. Emergency Manager Peterson reported that the State of Michigan is waiting for a Presidential Federal Declaration to assist with funds to disperse to impacted flood areas. Emergency Manager Peterson noted that any damage cause by flood waters has been temporary fixed.

Moved by Conery, supported by Judd, to approve Department Reports.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Old Business:

Appointment of Inspector of Soil & Sedimentation Erosion: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to appoint Nick Curtis to the Inspector of Soil and Sedimentation position effective May 5, 2026.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Exemption Request Form-Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Program of Iron County, Michigan:
Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the Exemption Request Form.

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Part 91 Permit Application for Iron County, Michigan – Iron County Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control program: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the Part 91 Permit Application.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Friend of Court Caseworker / Paternity Specialist position to Full-Time: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to table discussion and to add Friend of the Court Caseworker / Paternity Specialist position to Full-Time to the next monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Bruette, Conery
Nays: Stauber
Absent: Peretto**

Motion carried.

LEIN: After discussion, no action taken.

Northland Repair Order: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to table discussion and to add Northland Repair Order to the next monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Design/Build of Commercial Cold Storage Building Bids: **Moved by Conery, supported by Judd to approve Commissioner Stauber and Commissioner Bruette to consult with the Iron County Construction Code Department to then enable Commissioner Stauber and Commissioner Bruette to give recommendations to the full County Board.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

New Business:

Board of Canvassers: Appoint Dan Dupras (R) and Amy Pratt (D): **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to approve Dan Dupras (Republican) term ending 10/31/2029 and Amy Pratt (Democrat) term ending 10/31/2027 to the County Board of Canvassers.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Authority on Aging: Accept Resignation of Renee Verville / Appoint Maureen Elson: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to accept the Resignation of Renee Verville from the Authority on Aging Board and Appoint Maureen Elson to the Authority on Aging Board.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Housing Commission Board: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to appoint Robert Friot to the Housing Commission Board.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Transfer Station Feasibility Study – Brandon Presnell, Material Management Coordinator: **Moved by Judd, supported by Conery to move forward with the Transfer Station Feasibility Study.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Community Corrections – Trevor Kadlec, Director: After discussion, no action taken.

Iron County youth Camp Projects and Budget Amendment: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to approve the following budge amendments: increase Youth Camp Resident 498-000-653.000 by \$3119.00; increase Youth Camp Non Resident 498-00-653.100 by \$2675.00; decrease Salary-Department Head 498-000-703.001 by \$9189.00; increase Salaries other than DH 498-000-703.002 by \$10,756.00; increase Wages-Temporary Employees 498-000-707.000 by \$18,600.00; increase FICA 498-000-709.000 by \$1,746.00; increase Beginning of Year Balance 498-000-697.000 by \$313,900.00; increase Capital Outlay 498-000-976.000 by \$156,600.00; increase Road Improvements 498-000-976.100 by \$165,256.00.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Conery, Judd, Bruette, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Iron County Credit Car SOP revision – request to increase Youth Camp card limit: **Moved by Bruette, supported by Judd to increase the Youth Camp Director credit limit to \$20,000.00 and revise the Standard Operating Policy & Procedure (SOPP) to reflect such change.**

Roll call vote: Ayes: Judd, Bruette, Conery, Stauber

Nays: None

Absent: Peretto

Motion carried.

Elevator Upgrade to New Codes: **Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette to move forward with the Jail Elevator Upgrade contingent upon Civil Counsel approval of contract language.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Status of Roy Fulfer building (formerly Aspirus Ambulance Garage): **Moved by Bruette, supported by Conery to advertise a Requests for Proposal for the Roy Fulfer building.**

Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried

Public Comment:

Summer Olsen gave comment on the Community Corrections program.

James Pacer gave comment on the Buck Thorn problem on his property and in the County.

Announcements:

The Courthouse is closed on Monday, May 25, 2026 in Observance of Memorial Day.

A Parks and Recreation Commission meeting is May 28, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse

The next Regular Meeting of the County Board of Commissioners is Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by Conery, supported by Bruette, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Chairperson, Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register, Amy Donati